

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 SAJ-01 EB-11 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20

NIC-01 DRC-01 /189 W

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R 270911Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8288

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PL, VN, VS, US

SUBJECT: POLISH VIEWSON VIET-NAM

REF: WARSAW 1464

1. SUMMARY: VICE PREMIER JOZEJ TEJCHMA'S MARCH 21-25 VISIT TO NORTH VIET-NAM (REFTEL) AND THE SIX-POINT PROGRAM RECENTLY ANNOUNCED BY THE PRG HAVE BROUGHT INCREASED COVERAGE OF VIET-NAM IN THE POLISH PRESS. HOWEVER, EXCEPT FOR AN ALMOST VERBATIM REPRINT OF THE RECENT WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL CONCERNING AMBASSADOR MARTIN, THE TONE IN THE PRESS HAS CONTINUED TO SHOW THE RELATIVE RESTRAINT WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY OBSERVED. END SUMMARY.

2. TEJCHMA LED A POLISH DELGATION TO HAOI FOR ECONOMIC TALKS WITH NORTH VIETNAMESE LEADERS IN CONNECTION WITH
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THE FOURTHE SESSION OF THE POLISH-VIETNAMESE COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION,

ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. IN THAT REGARD, A MARCH 21 TRYBUNA LUDU ARTICLE LIKENED THE REBUILDING OF HANOI TO THE POSTWAR RECONSTRUCTION OF WARSAW. THOUGH LACKING POLEMICS, THE STORY WAS SPRINKLED WITH ALLUSIONS TO US AIR RAIDS ON HANOI, AND DESTRUCTION OF VARIOUS INSTALLATIONS, INCLUDING THE BACH MAI HOSPITAL, IS ALLEGED. A PICTORIAL SPREAD IN THE CURRENT ISSUE OF THE POPULAR WEEKLY PERSPEKTYWY LAUDS THE ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM REFLECTED IN NORTH VIETNAMESE RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS. ITS ONLY DIRECT ANTI-AMERICAN COMMENT IS AN INTRODUCTORY PASSAGE QUOTING ANTHONY LEWIS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE US AHD NOT BEEN ABLE TO BREAK NORTH VIET-NAM POLITICALLY, MILITARILY, OR PERSPEKTYWY ADDS, MORALLY.

3. TEJCHMA'S REMARKS TO AN ASSEMBLY AT A SUGAR MILL NEAR HANOI, BUILT SIXTEEN YEARS AGO WITH POLISH ASSISTANCE, ARE REPORTED AT LENGTH IN TRYBUNA LUDU ON MARCH 26 ASIDE FROM PREDICTABLE EXPRESSIONS OF PRAISE AND SUPPORT FOR NORTH VIET-NAM, TEJCHMA UNDERSCORED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND ATTACKED "THE REACTIONARY SAIGON REGIME" WHICH, HE ASSERTED, "SABOTAGES" AND "DISTORTS" THE ESSENCE OF THE AGREEMENT, "VIOLATED" THE CEASE-FIRE, AND CONDUCTS POLITICAL ACTIONS AGAINST THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE, "IMPRISONING AND TORTURING HUNDRED OF THOUSANDS OF PATRIOTS." THERE IS NO DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE US IN THE PUBLISHED REMARKS. HOWEVER, TEJCHMA CHARGED THAT SAIGON BENEFITS FROM "POLITICAL SUPPORT AND MATERIAL AID OF IMPERIALIST CIRCLES INIMICAL TO PEACE."

4. THE PRG "DECLARATION" OF MARCH 22 WAS FULLY AND OBJECTIVELY REPORTED IN THE WEEKEND PRESS, AND ON MARCH 25 TRYBUNA LUDU EDITORIALY SUPPORTED THE SIX-POINT "PLAN," CALLING IT A "NEW, IMPORTANT INITIATIVE" BRR "GENUINE PEACE" IN SOUTH VIET-NAM. EXPLAINING THAT THE "PLAN" CALLS FOR "LASTING REGULATION" OF THE SITUATION BY "POLITICAL MEANS," THE EDITORIAL CHARGES THAT SAIGON "CEASELESSLY" ATTACKS THE "LIBERATED" AREAS. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, IT ASSERTS THAT THE PRG PROGRAM IS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF ITS "GOOD WILL" AND OF THE CEASELESS STRIVING" OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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"LIBERATION FORCES" FOR "GENUINE PEACE". MOREOVER, "ALL POSTULATES" CONTAINED IN THE PRG PLAN STEM FROM THE "SPIRIT AND LETTER" OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, TRYBUNA LUDU CLAIMS.

5. THE ATTACK ON AMBASSADOR MARTIN APPEARED IN ZYCIE WARSZAWY ON MARCH 21 UNDER THE TITLE : "AMERICAN ASSISTANCE FOR THIEU -- STARTLING DEMANDS BY US AMBASSADOR." THIEU, THE PIECE CONTENTS, "HAS GOTTEN USED TO THE GENEROUS HAND OF THE ALLY ACROSS THE OCEAN," BUT IT IS "QUIRE SURPRISING"

THAT HE HAS "GAINED A NEW SUPPORTER" IN THE PERSON OF AMBASSADOR MARTIN. THE ARTICLE THEN OUTLINES THE SCENARIO SURROUNDING THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST FOR AID TO SOUTH VIET-NAM, DRAWING HEAVILY UPON -- AND CITING - THE INTERNATIONAL HEARLD TRIBUNE AND THE WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL, WHICH THE FORMER NEWSPAPER CARRIED ON MARCH 16-17.

6. COMMENT: THE ARTICLES AND COMMENTARY DESCRIBED ABOVE ARE OBVIOUSLY AN EXPRESSION OF POLAND'S POLICY OF "FULL SUPPORT" TO HANOI AND THE PRG, BUT THEY NEVERTHELESS REFLECT A PERCEPTIBLE RESTRAINT, PARTICULARLY AS CONCERNS THE US. THUS, THE POLES REMAIN RELUCTANT TO VOICE PUBLICLY ANY DIRECT ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE US CONCERNING VIET-NAM, PREFERRING, WHEN THEY DO SO, TO REPLY ON MATERIAL SUCH AS THE POST MATERIAL.

7. FEW DETAILS OF TEJCHMA'S DISCUSSIONS IN HANOI HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED. HOWEVER, THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN TO OUTLINE THE NATURE, AS HE PUT IN HIS SPEECH AT THE SUGAR MILL, OF POLAND'S CONTRIBUTION TO "HEALING THE WAR WOUNDS AND TO ACCELERATING THE SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION OF THE DRV."
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